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by Hiel. The general style of its architecture resembles the Hittite buildings. After an occupation of about 200 years the city was again destroyed, perhaps at the time of Sennacherib's invasion.

Jericho was again reoccupied in Jewish times. The pottery found here is characteristic of that from the sixth century to the Greek period. In late Jewish time jar-handles stamped with Jah and Jahu were discovered. This city figures in Maccabaeen history, and was destroyed by Vespasian about 70 A.D. It was rebuilt by Hadrian and afterward Justinian built a guest-house there. Traces of this Byzantine occupation were found. Above the ruins of this last-mentioned time were found only Moslem graves.

The publication of the work is well executed. The illustrations are copious and well done. One only regrets that the excavation was abandoned before the whole mound was turned over. In reality the digging covered but a fraction of it. No sanctuary was found, though Jericho, like Taanach, Megiddo, and Gezer, must have had its high place. Stone idols from the Canaanite strata, and a clay idol from the Israelitish, are earnest of this. It is to be hoped that at some time the work may be reopened and completed.

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#### A NEW INTRODUCTORY HANDBOOK OF EGYPTIAN<sup>1</sup>

It is a very remarkable fact that whereas the layman can find convenient and well-arranged handbooks in the English language, which will introduce him to the various languages of Western Asia, he will search in vain for any such introductory guide to Egyptian in English. This is the more extraordinary because Egyptian hieroglyphic is the one picturesque system of ancient writing which most easily attracts the attention and rouses the interest of the cultivated student or the casual tourist. Moreover, Egypt is the one land of the ancient Orient which is the paradise of the greatest number of modern tourists. The writer has met scores of travelers on the Nile who were endeavoring to gain some slight knowledge of the picturesque writing which covers the vast walls of the Egyptian temples. Such attempts were always based upon the scanty outlines offered in the guide-books, or on a primer which represents a state of knowledge a generation or two old.

A generation of epoch-making study of Egyptian grammar at the hands of German scholars, led by Erman, has found absolutely no reflection in the available books of instruction in English, unless we except the English version of the first edition of Erman's *Grammar*, now, unhappily, twenty years old.

With the purpose of meeting the need for such a book in Germany, and also of supplying the student with a less expensive volume than the

<sup>1</sup> *Ägyptisch. Praktische Einführung in die Hieroglyphen und die ägyptische Sprache, mit Lesestücken und Wörterbuch*, von Günther Roeder. Munich: C. H. Beck'sche Verlagsbuchhandlung, 1913.

*Grammar and Chrestomathy* of Erman, Dr. Günther Roeder, of Breslau, has just produced an excellent little volume in Strack's new series of Oriental Grammars, known as *Clavis linguarum semiticarum*, of which it forms the Sixth Part. The volume represents the very latest state of knowledge in Egyptian science, and is admirably adapted for the purpose which the author has in view. The presentation of the grammar is surprisingly condensed, containing all the elements of the language in 54 pages. The list of the signs comprising the system of writing occupies 10 pages, and to this a little dictionary of 17 pages is added. A selection of well-chosen texts, suited for reading by a beginner, occupies 56 pages at the end of the volume, with a few pages of grammatical and explanatory notes.

While congratulating the German traveler on the Nile upon the possession of a textbook so convenient and reasonably priced, and which will introduce him quickly and intelligently to the mysteries of Egyptian speech and writing, we cannot but express regret that no such volume exists in English.<sup>1</sup>

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## HELPS FOR THE ELEMENTARY STUDY OF ARABIC

### SUPPLEMENTARY NOTE

Since my note bearing the above title was published, in the January number of this *Journal*,<sup>2</sup> I have had opportunity to examine the new (1913) edition of Brünnow's *Arabische Chrestomathie aus Prosaschriftstellern*, edited by Fischer.

The selections are for the most part new, and are on the whole well chosen and arranged. The glossary is prepared with especial care, but—unfortunately for English-speaking students—only in German. It is to be hoped that an edition with Arabic-English glossary may also be published. It would doubtless meet with a hearty welcome, both in this country and in England.

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<sup>1</sup> A little volume of even less technical character, representing the elements of Egyptian speech and writing, and intended chiefly for youth, has just been furnished for the "Sammlung Göschen" by Professor Erman, the founder of the modern school of Egyptian grammatical study, in a delightful little treatise entitled *Die Hieroglyphen*, von Dr. Adolf Erman, Berlin and Leipzig: G. J. Göschen'sche Verlagshandlung G. m. B. H., 1912.

<sup>2</sup> See pp. 138 f.